

SHORT COMMUNICATION

ON THE VENEZUELAN SPECIES OF JUMPING SPIDER DESCRIBED BY SCHENKEL (ARANEAE, SALTICIDAE)

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ABSTRACT. Two new synonyms are established in Salticidae: *Menemerus falconensis* Schenkel 1953 is designated as a junior synonym of *Freya infuscata* (FO. Pickard-Cambridge 1901); and *Phiale albivittata* Schenkel 1953 is designated as a junior synonym of *Freya perelegans* Simon 1902. In addition, the new combination *Cotinusa furcifera* (Schenkel 1953) is proposed for *Breda furcifera* Schenkel 1953.

Keywords: South America, taxonomy, *Cotinusa*, *Freya*

After the examination of some arachnids brought from Venezuela by Dr. K. Wiedenmeyer, Schenkel (1953) published a paper describing several species, including six species of jumping spiders. The original descriptions, however, are poor and the drawings presented do not allow their identification.

Although Dr. M.E. Galiano had already examined the type specimens of these salticids, only three nominal species were redescribed and well illustrated during her revisions. *Lyssomanes minor* Schenkel 1953 was redescribed by Galiano (1962); *Menemerus acostae* Schenkel 1953 and *Lyssomanes wiedenmeyeri* Schenkel 1953 were treated as junior synonyms of *Pachomius dybowski* (Taczanowski 1871) and *Lyssomanes elegans* FO. Pickard-Cambridge 1900, respectively, by Galiano (1963a, 1980). The other three species remained unrecognizable until now.

Recently, Dr. Ambros Hänggi kindly sent us the type material of the species not recorded by Galiano, namely *Breda furcifera* Schenkel 1953, *Menemerus falconensis* Schenkel 1953 and *Phiale albivittata* Schenkel 1953. In this paper we present two new synonymies and a new combination for these nominal species as well as redescriptions and illustrations where necessary.

The material examined is deposited in the Naturhistorisches Museum Basel, Basel, Switzerland (NMB, A. Hänggi). The measurements are in millimeters. The following abbreviations were used: RTA = retrolateral tibial apophysis; AME = anterior median eyes; PME = posterior median eyes; PLE = posterior lateral eyes; d = dorsal; p = pro-lateral; r = retrolateral; v = ventral; di = distal.

TAXONOMY

Family Salticidae Blackwall 1841

Genus *Cotinusa* Simon 1900

Cotinusa furcifera (Schenkel 1953)

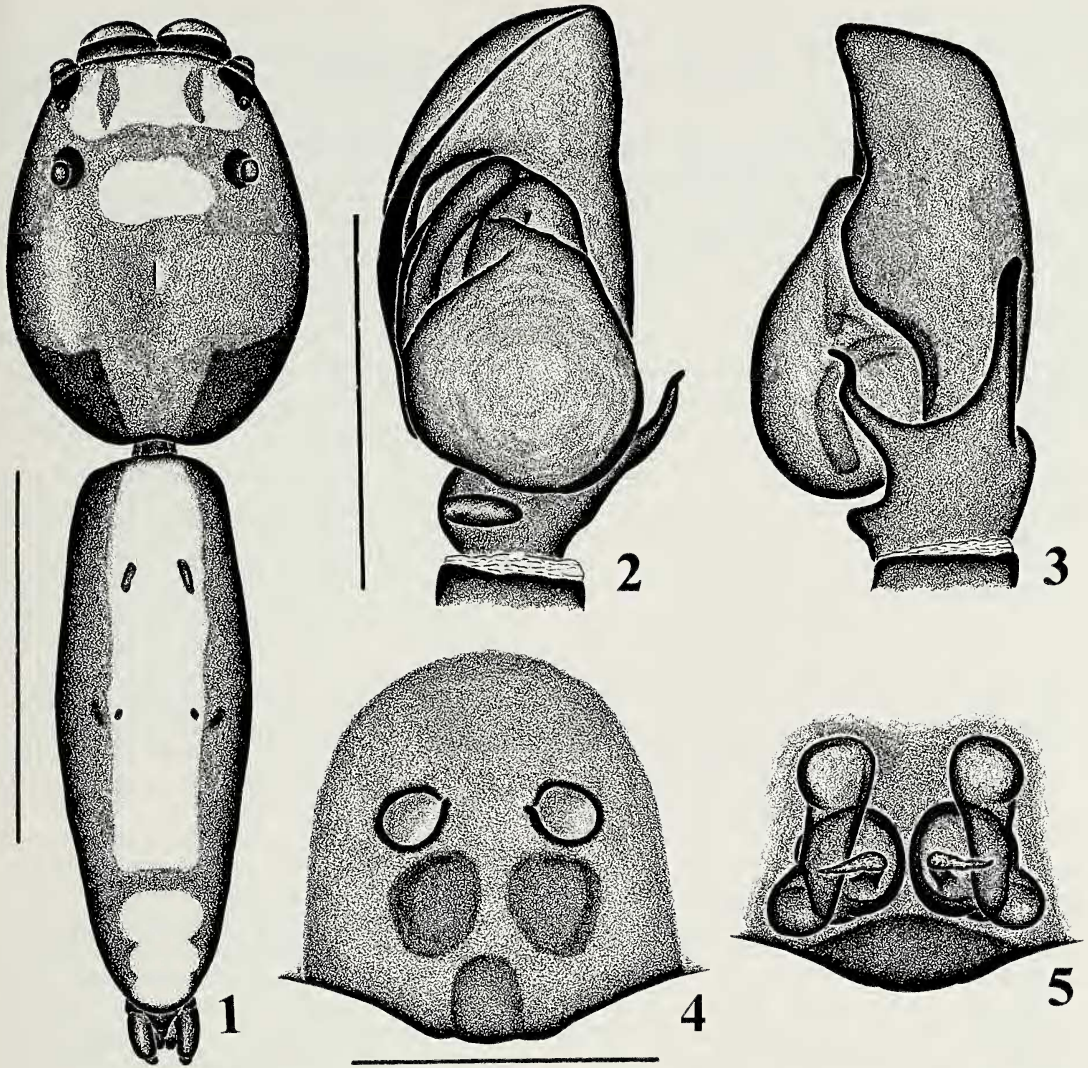
NEW COMBINATION

Figs. 1–3

Breda furcifera Schenkel 1953:53, figs. 46a–b; Platnick 2006.

Material examined.—VENEZUELA: *Falcón*: male holotype, El Pozón, Distrito Acosta (12°06'N, 70°00'W), October 1924–January 1925, K. Wiedenmeyer (NMB 2256).

Description.—Total length: 5.40. Carapace light brown, dark laterally, 2.25 long, 1.60 wide, 0.90 high (Fig. 1). Ocular quadrangle 0.85 long, black rings around eyes, light areas between the PLE and among the PME and the anterior eyes (Fig. 1); internal dark structures of the AME seen through the translucent tegument. Anterior eye row 1.07 wide, posterior 1.10 wide. Chelicerae with one tooth with four tips on promargin and one bicuspid tooth on retromargin. Palp with a straight embolus and a bifid RTA (Figs. 2–3). Sternum pale yellow. Legs light brown. No bulbous setae on tibiae I, but with a longitudinal row with seven small setae prolaterally on femur I. Length of femur I 1.20, II 1.10, III 1.05, IV 0.65; patella + tibia I 1.60, II 1.40, III 1.15, IV 0.90; metatarsus + tarsus I 1.00, II 0.95, III 1.05, IV 1.25. Spination (poorly preserved): femur I d1?, p1di; II d1-1?, p1di; III d1?, p2di, r1di; IV?; patella I, II 0; III r1; IV 0; tibia I v2di; II 0; III, IV r1-1; metatarsus I v2-2; II v1r-2; III p2di,



Figures 1–5.—*Cotinusa furcifera* (Schenkel 1953): 1. Dorsal view of male; 2. Male palp, ventral view; 3. Male palp, retrolateral view. *Freya infuscata* (FO. Pickard-Cambridge 1901): 4. Epigynum, ventral view; 5. Dorsal. Scale line = 2.0 mm (Fig. 1); = 0.5 mm (Figs. 2–5).

r1-1di, v1rdi; IV p2di, r1di, v1pdi. Abdomen (Fig. 1) pale yellow, light brown laterally.

Comments.—Since the genus has never been revised, we decline to speculate on the validity of this nominal species.

Distribution.—Known only from Venezuela (Platnick 2006).

Genus *Freya* C.L. Koch 1850

Freya infuscata

(FO. Pickard-Cambridge 1901)

Figs. 4–5

Cyrene infuscata FO. Pickard-Cambridge 1901: 235, pl. 19, fig. 14 [female holotype from Bugaba (8°28'N, 82°37'W), Provincia de Chiriqui, Pana-

ma, Champion (Natural History Museum, London), not examined].

Freya infuscata (FO. Pickard-Cambridge): Petrunkevitch 1911:653; Kraus 1955:61, fig. 173; Platnick 2006.

Menemerus falconensis Schenkel 1953:49, fig. 43. NEW SYNONYMY.

Material examined.—VENEZUELA: *Falcón*: 2 female syntypes, El Pozón, Distrito Acosta (12°06'N, 70°00'W), October 1924–January 1925, K. Widenmeyer (NMB 2259-a).

Description.—Total length: 10.40. Carapace brown, 3.95 long, 2.85 wide, 1.95 high. Ocular quadrangle dark brown, 1.85 long, black rings

around eyes. Anterior eye row 2.55 wide, posterior 2.55 wide. Chelicerae dark brown, with two teeth on promargin and one on retromargin. Sternum light brown. Legs light brown, dark brown proximally and distally. Length of femur I 2.20, II? (leg absent), III 2.70, IV 2.40; patella + tibia I 2.80, II?, III 2.60, IV 2.90; metatarsus + tarsus I 1.80, II?, III 2.50, IV 2.75. Spination (variation in parentheses): femur I d1-1-1, p2di; II?; III d1-1-1, p2di, r1di; IV d1-1-1, r1di; patella I 0; II?; III, IV p1, r1; tibia I v2-2-1p-2; II?; III, IV p1-1-1, r1-1-1, v1p-0-2; metatarsus I v2-2; II?; III p1-0-2, r1-1-2, v2-2; IV p1-1-2, r2-1-2 (r1-1-2), v2-2. Abdomen pale yellow, variegated with brown. Epigynal plate with two circular openings and spherical spermathecae (Figs. 4–5). Spinnerets light brown.

Comments.—Synonymy based on illustrations by F.O. Pickard-Cambridge and Kraus. The genus has not been entirely revised and therefore we cannot present a comparative diagnosis for this species.

Distribution.—Known from El Salvador, Panama and Venezuela (Platnick 2006).

Freya perelegans Simon 1902

Freya perelegans Simon 1902:414 [male lectotype from Caracas (10°30'N, 66°55'W), Distrito Federal, Venezuela, E. Simon, designated by Galiano (1963b) (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris), not examined]; Galiano 1963b:359, pl. XX, figs. 8–9; Platnick 2006.

Phiale albovittata Schenkel 1953:51, figs. 45a–b. NEW SYNONYMY.

Material examined.—VENEZUELA: *Falcón*: male holotype, El Pozón, Distrito Acosta (12°06'N, 70°00'W), October 1924–January 1925, K. Widenmeyer (NMB 2254).

Description.—See Galiano (1963b).

Comments.—Synonymy based on illustrations by Galiano (1963b). Only one (different) species group of this genus has been revised (Galiano 2001) and therefore we cannot present a comparative diagnosis for this species.

Distribution.—Known only from Venezuela (Platnick 2006).

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